

Working to put our economy back on track and people back to work through delivering increased investment in local infrastructure, Assistant Senate Majority Leader Dick Durbin (D-IL), Rep. Debbie Halvorson (IL-11), and local officials announced over \$22 million in Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery ("TIGER") grant funding for the Multi-modal Transportation Center in Normal, IL.

"With this funding to complete the multi-modal center, Normal is poised to become a showcase community for the potential of high-speed rail in America," said Durbin. "This project will create hundreds of jobs in the region and serve as a transportation hub in the heart of Illinois. I want to congratulate Mayor Koos for securing this last amount of funding and also thank Congresswoman Halvorson for her efforts."

The multi-modal facility will provide the public with a safe terminal for nine modes of transportation, including Amtrak service and newly funded high-speed rail to Chicago and St. Louis, rail city bus system, inter-city and charter buses, airport shuttles, taxis, park and ride facilities, and pedestrian connections to the downtown and Illinois State University campus.

"As we work to rebuild our economy and expand economic opportunities throughout Illinois, projects like this multi-modal center and high-speed rail will bring the jobs and development our communities need" said Halvorson. "Delivering this funding was a real team effort that will truly benefit the entire region. I'm proud to have worked with Senator Durbin, Mayor Koos and our local leaders to deliver this funding, and I'm proud to help deliver a facility that our friends and neighbors will use for years to come."

The \$22 million awarded was part of a larger \$1.5 billion in TIGER Grant funding distributed throughout the country. Of almost 1,400 applications nationwide submitted to the Department of Transportation, the Multi-modal Transportation Center was one of 3 projects funded in the state of Illinois.

The \$22 million in funding is supplemented by \$250,000 in federal funding for the multi-modal requested and secured by Halvorson last December through HR 3288, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2010. Both Halvorson and Durbin have been strong advocates for increased investment in transportation infrastructure throughout Illinois as a way to spur economic development and grow jobs, having just recently announced over \$1.2 billion in

stimulus funds delivered for a high-speed rail program from Chicago to St. Louis.